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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Yoshiki TAKASHIMA, et al.

Appln. No. 09/537,416

Filed: March 29, 2000



For: METHODS FOR PRODUCING OPTICALLY ACTIVE AMINO ACIDS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Ian G. Fotheringham et al., "Aminotransferase-Catalyzed Conversion of D-Amino Acids to L-Amino Acids", *Biotechnol. Prog.*, Vol. 7, 1991, pp. 380-381.
2. Leonila Láiz et al., "Purification and characterization of the isopenicillin N epimerase from *Nocardia lactamdurans*", *Journal of General Microbiology*, Vol. 136, 1990, pp. 663-371.

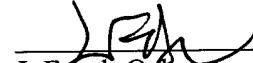
One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

TAKASHIMA et al.
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Information Disclosure Statement

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


J. Frank Osha
Registration No. 24,625

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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